

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A multilayer article comprising:  
at least one substrate comprising a first material;  
an intermediate layer; and  
a surface film comprising a thermoplastic polyester different from said intermediate layer,  
wherein the surface film and intermediate layer are both transparent and the intermediate layer has an index of refraction lower than the index of refraction of the surface film.
- 2 The article of claim 1 wherein the at least one substrate comprises at least one material selected from the group consisting of glass, metals, ceramics, cellulosic products and resins.
3. The article of claim 2 wherein the at least one substrate comprises at least one polycarbonate, polyester or addition polymer of an alkenylaromatic compound.
4. The article of claim 2 wherein the at least one substrate includes an additional component selected from the group consisting of fillers and colorants.
5. The article of claim 1 wherein the intermediate layer comprises poly(vinyl fluoride) and acrylate copolymers, poly(vinylidene difluoride) and acrylate copolymers, poly(vinyl chloride) and copolymers, poly(vinylidene dichloride) and copolymers, poly(oxymethylene), poly(oxyethylene), poly(oxypropylene), poly(vinyl alkylethers), silicones, poly(alkyl acrylates), poly(alkyl methacrylates), poly(N-alkyl amides), poly(vinyl alkanoates), cellulose alkanoates, cellulose benzoate, polyethylene, polyethylene ionomers, polypropylenes, poly(butylene), poly(isobutylene), poly(isoprene), aliphatic polyesters, aliphatic polycarbonates, aliphatic polyurethanes, poly(ethylene-co-propylene) (EPR rubber), poly(ethylene-co-propylene) ionomers, poly(vinyl butyral), poly(vinyl alcohol), poly(acrolein), natural rubber, poly(butadiene) rubbers, melamine resins, urea-formaldehyde resins, aliphatic epoxy resins, copolymers thereof, and blends thereof.

6. The article of claim 5 wherein the intermediate layer has an index of refraction ranging from about 1.3 to about 1.55.
7. The article of claim 5 wherein the intermediate layer is a poly(methyl methacrylate) having an index of refraction of about 1.49.
8. The article of claim 1 wherein the surface film comprises an arylate polymer.
9. The article of claim 8 wherein the arylate polymer contains resorcinol moieties bound to isophthalate and/or terephthalate moieties.
10. The article of claim 8 wherein the surface film further comprises at least one colorant.
11. The article of claim 1 further comprising an interlayer disposed between the intermediate layer and substrate.
12. The article of claim 1 wherein the article is selected from the group consisting of automotive, truck, military vehicle, and motorcycle exterior and interior components, panels, quarter panels, rocker panels, trim, fenders, doors, decklids, trunklids, hoods, bonnets, roofs, bumpers, fascia, grilles, mirror housings, pillar appliques, cladding, body side moldings, wheel covers, hubcaps, door handles, spoilers, window frames, headlamp bezels, headlamps, tail lamps, tail lamp housings, tail lamp bezels, license plate enclosures, roof racks and running boards.
13. The article of claim 1 wherein the article is selected from the group consisting of enclosures, housings, panels, parts and trim for outdoor vehicles and devices.
14. The article of claim 1 wherein the article is selected from the group consisting of, electrical and telecommunication devices, outdoor furniture, aircraft components, boats

and marine equipment, outboard motor housings, depth finder housings, personal watercraft, jet-skis, pools, spas, hot-tubs, steps, step coverings, building and construction applications, glazing, roofs, countertops, windows, window trim, floors, decorative window furnishings and treatments, treated glass covers for pictures, paintings, posters, and like display items, refractors, sheaths for fluorescent tubes, sleeve guards, wall panels, doors, door trim, protected graphics, outdoor and indoor signs, enclosures, housings, panels, and parts for automatic teller machines (ATM), enclosures, housings, panels, and parts for lawn and garden tractors, lawn mowers, lawn and garden tools, sports equipment, toys, enclosures, housings, panels, and parts for snowmobiles, recreational vehicle panels and components, playground equipment, articles made from plastic-wood combinations, golf course markers, utility pit covers, computer housings, desk-top computer housings, portable computer housings, lap-top computer housings, palm-held computer housings, monitor housings, printer housings, keyboards, FAX machine housings, copier housings, telephone housings, mobile phone housings, radio sender housings, radio receiver housings, light fixtures, lighting appliances, network interface device housings, transformer housings, air conditioner housings, cladding or seating for public transportation, cladding or seating for trains, subways, or buses, meter housings, antenna housings, cladding for satellite dishes, coated helmets, personal protective equipment, coated synthetic or natural textiles, coated photographic film, coated photographic prints, coated painted articles, coated dyed articles, coated fluorescent articles, and coated foam articles.

15. A method for preparing a multilayer article which comprises:
  - forming at least one substrate of at least one material selected from the group consisting of glass, metals, ceramics, cellulosic products and resins;
  - applying an intermediate layer to the at least one substrate; and
  - applying a surface film to the intermediate layer,
 wherein the surface film and intermediate layer are both transparent and the intermediate layer has an index of refraction lower than the index of refraction of the surface film.

16. The method of claim 15 wherein the step of forming the at least one substrate comprises selecting a substrate from at least one polycarbonate, polyester or addition polymer of an alkenylaromatic compound.
17. The method of claim 15 wherein the step of forming the at least one substrate further comprises adding a component selected from the group consisting of fillers and colorants.
18. The method of claim 15 wherein the step of applying the intermediate layer comprises selecting an intermediate layer comprising poly(vinyl fluoride) and acrylate copolymers, poly(vinylidene difluoride) and acrylate copolymers, poly(vinyl chloride) and copolymers, poly(vinylidene dichloride) and copolymers, poly(oxymethylene), poly(oxyethylene), poly(oxypropylene), poly(vinyl alkylethers), silicones, poly(alkyl acrylates), poly(alkyl methacrylates), poly(N-alkyl amides), poly(vinyl alkanoates), cellulose alkanoates, cellulose benzoate, polyethylene, polyethylene ionomers, polypropylenes, poly(butylene), poly(isobutylene), poly(isoprene), aliphatic polyesters, aliphatic polycarbonates, aliphatic polyurethanes, poly(ethylene-co-propylene) (EPR rubber), poly(ethylene-co-propylene) ionomers, poly(vinyl butyral), poly(vinyl alcohol), poly(acrolein), natural rubber, poly(butadiene) rubbers, melamine resins, urea-formaldehyde resins, aliphatic epoxy resins, copolymers thereof, and blends thereof.
19. The method of claim 15 wherein the step of applying the intermediate layer comprises forming an intermediate layer having an index of refraction ranging from about 1.3 to about 1.55.
20. The method of claim 15 wherein the step of applying the intermediate layer comprises selecting a poly(methyl methacrylate) having an index of refraction of about 1.49 as the intermediate layer.
21. The method of claim 15 wherein the step of applying the surface film comprises selecting an arylate polymer as the surface film.

22. The method of claim 21 wherein the step of applying the surface film comprises selecting an arylate polymer containing resorcinol moieties bound to isophthalate and/or terephthalate moieties.
23. The method of claim 15 wherein the step of applying the surface film further comprises applying at least one colorant.
24. The method of claim 15 further comprising placing an interlayer between the intermediate layer and the at least one substrate.
25. The method of claim 15 wherein the steps of preparing the multi-layer article are by a method selected from the group consisting solution coating, co-injection molding, coextrusion, overmolding, multi-shot injection molding, sheet molding and lamination.
26. The method of claim 15 wherein the step of applying the intermediate layer comprises using the intermediate layer as an adhesive adhering the surface film to the at least one substrate thereby forming the multilayer article.
27. The method of claim 15 further comprising applying the multilayer article to a second substrate.
28. A multilayer article comprising:  
at least one substrate comprising a polycarbonate;  
an intermediate layer comprising a poly(methyl methacrylate); and  
a surface film comprising an arylate polymer comprising resorcinol moieties bound to isophthalate and/or terephthalate moieties,  
wherein the surface film and intermediate layer are both transparent and the intermediate layer has an index of refraction lower than the index of refraction of the surface film.

29. The article of claim 28 wherein the surface film further comprises at least one colorant.

30. The article of claim 28 further comprising an interlayer disposed between the intermediate layer and substrate.

31. The article of claim 28 wherein the article is selected from the group consisting of automotive, truck, military vehicle, and motorcycle exterior and interior components, panels, quarter panels, rocker panels, trim, fenders, doors, decklids, trunklids, hoods, bonnets, roofs, bumpers, fascia, grilles, mirror housings, pillar appliques, cladding, body side moldings, wheel covers, hubcaps, door handles, spoilers, window frames, headlamp bezels, headlamps, tail lamps, tail lamp housings, tail lamp bezels, license plate enclosures, roof racks and running boards.

32. The article of claim 28 wherein the article is selected from the group consisting of enclosures, housings, panels, parts and trim for outdoor vehicles and devices.

33. The article of claim 28 wherein the article is selected from the group consisting of, electrical and telecommunication devices, outdoor furniture, aircraft components, boats and marine equipment, outboard motor housings, depth finder housings, personal water-craft, jet-skis, pools, spas, hot-tubs, steps, step coverings, building and construction applications, glazing, roofs, countertops, windows, window trim, floors, decorative window furnishings and treatments, treated glass covers for pictures, paintings, posters, and like display items, refractors, sheaths for fluorescent tubes, sleeve guards, wall panels, doors, door trim, protected graphics, outdoor and indoor signs, enclosures, housings, panels, and parts for automatic teller machines (ATM), enclosures, housings, panels, and parts for lawn and garden tractors, lawn mowers, lawn and garden tools, sports equipment, toys, enclosures, housings, panels, and parts for snowmobiles, recreational vehicle panels and components, playground equipment, articles made from plastic-wood combinations, golf course markers, utility pit covers, computer housings, desk-top computer housings, portable computer housings, lap-top computer housings,

palm-held computer housings, monitor housings, printer housings, keyboards, FAX machine housings, copier housings, telephone housings, mobile phone housings, radio sender housings, radio receiver housings, light fixtures, lighting appliances, network interface device housings, transformer housings, air conditioner housings, cladding or seating for public transportation, cladding or seating for trains, subways, or buses, meter housings, antenna housings, cladding for satellite dishes, coated helmets, personal protective equipment, coated synthetic or natural textiles, coated photographic film, coated photographic prints, coated painted articles, coated dyed articles, coated fluorescent articles, and coated foam articles.